

ABSOLUTE RATING: Unsatisfactory
IMPROVEMENT RATING: Below Average

Number of districts with students like ours: 9.

The absolute ratings for those districts ranged from unsatisfactory to below average. For improvement ratings, the range was from below average to good.

Definitions of District Rating Terms

Excellent- District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

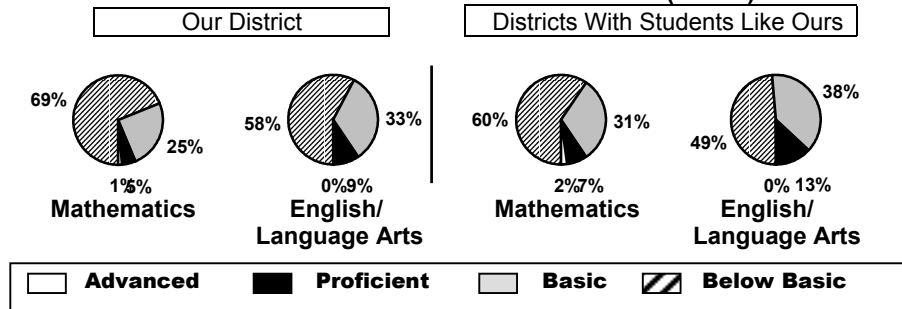
Good- District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average- District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average- District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory- District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

Student Group	Percent of Seniors Passing the Exit Exam	Percent of Seniors Qualifying for LIFE Scholarships	Percent of Students Scoring Basic or Above on the PACT	
			ELA	Math
All Students	80.2%	0.0%	42.2%	31.2%
Students with disabilities other than Speech	100.0%	0.0%	35.4%	22%
Students without disabilities	63.5%	0.0%	44.2%	32.5%
Gender				
Male	67.6%	0.0%	35.3%	26.2%
Female	61.2%	0.0%	52.4%	37.5%
Ethnic Group				
African-American	62.8%	0.0%	42.1%	30.2%
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
White	87.5%	0.0%	68.3%	57.8%
Other	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lunch Status				
Free/ Reduced-Price Lunch	60.3%	0.0%	40.7%	29.8%
Pay for Lunch	72.5%	0.0%	61.8%	43.6%

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	First-time Examinees		
	1999	2000	2001
Our district			
Passed all 3 subtests	40.3%	30.1%	46.8%
Passed 2 subtests	26.0%	27.3%	23.4%
Passed 1 subtest	19.4%	23.3%	15.8%
Passed no subtest	14.3%	19.3%	13.9%
Districts with students like ours			
Passed all 3 subtests	40.1%	39.3%	50.6%
Passed 2 subtests	25.8%	23.9%	20.1%
Passed 1 subtest	18.0%	19.3%	16.1%
Passed no subtest	16.1%	17.5%	13.3%

LIFE scholarships at four-year institutions

	Eligible	Percent of Seniors Meeting Grade Point Average Requirement	Meeting SAT/ACT Requirement
Our District	0.0%	11.4%	0.0%
Districts Like Ours	3.8%	26.1%	4.0%

College Admissions Tests: Tests that are frequently used in the college admissions process.

	SAT Verbal		SAT Math		SAT Total		ACT English		ACT Math		ACT Reading		ACT Science		ACT Total	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
District	391	391	382	392	773	783	12.9	13.7	14.6	16.4	14.5	15.6	14.9	15.9	14.5	15.6
State	484	486	482	488	966	974	18.7	18.8	19.2	19.3	19.5	19.5	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.3
Nation	505	506	514	514	1019	1020	20.5	20.5	20.7	20.7	21.4	21.3	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0

These tests were administered to samples of students:

Terra Nova Test: A national, norm-referenced achievement test.

Percent scoring in upper half

	Reading		Language		Math		Total	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Grade 4	47.8	50.0	43.1	50.0	58.4	50.0	50.5	50.0
Grade 7	45.8	50.0	59.4	50.0	54.7	50.0	53.9	50.0
Grade 10	59.6	50.0	59.5	50.0	62.4	50.0	59.1	50.0

National Assessment of Education Progress : A national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

Percents of Students

Test	Grade	Year	Advanced		Proficient		Basic		Below Basic	
			State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Reading	4	1998	4	6	18	23	33	32	45	39
Writing	8	1998	0	1	15	23	64	59	21	17
Mathematics	4	2000	2	3	16	23	42	43	40	31

DISTRICT PROFILE

INDICATORS OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

	This District	Change from Last Year	Districts With Students Like Ours	Median District
DISTRICT				
• Dollars per student	\$6,922	N/A	\$7,279	\$6,464
• Prime instructional time	88.9%	Up from 88.3%	88.7%	89.4%
• Student-teacher ratio	12.8 to 1	N/A	18.3 to 1	20.2 to 1
• Vacancies for more than nine weeks	3.4%	N/A	3.6%	0.6%
STUDENTS (n=2,998)				
• Advanced placement/ int'l baccalaureate program exam success ratio	0%	N/A	0%	43.8%
• Attendance Rate	95.3%	Down from 95.7%	95.7%	95.7%
• Taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	6.9%	N/A	8.5%	5.8%
• Taking PACT (Math) off grade level	5.9%	N/A	5.9%	4.5%
• Retention rate	7.5%	Up from 7.4%	7.5%	6.0%
TEACHERS (n=236)				
• Professional development days per teacher	6.8 Days	Down from 8.6	8 Days	7.8 Days
• Attendance rate	95.2%	Up from 94.5%	94.5%	95.2%
• Advanced Degrees	33.9%	Up from 33.3%	34.3%	44.4%
• Continuing contracts	64.8%	Down from 77.2%	71.1%	81.4%
• Out-of-field permits	4.7%	Up from 2.2%	5%	2.2%
• Teachers returning from the previous year	79.5%	Down from 82.3%	79.5%	89.5%
• Average salary	\$34,172	Up 0.5%	\$34,944	\$37,143

DISTRICT FACTS

DISTRICT				
• Annual dropout rate	4.1%	Up from 3.2%	4.1%	2.9%
• Percentage spent on teacher salaries	47.5%	N/A	47.5%	50.9%
• Superintendent's years in the district	5.5	N/A	5.5	3.5
• Parent conferences	96.1%	N/A	65.2%	81.0%
• Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	N/A	Good	Excellent
• Number of schools	8	No change	4	8
• Number of alternative schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of charter schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of magnet schools	0	N/A	0	0
• Portable classrooms	7.2%	N/A	7.2%	6.5%
• Attendance rate of district office staff	N/A	N/A	95.5%	97.5%
• Average administrative salary	\$57,380	Up 0.2%	\$62,979	\$64,098
STUDENTS				
• Enrollment in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Percent of completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Suspensions and expulsions	40	N/A	41	100
• Percent eligible for state gifted and talented programs	2.5%	Down from 2.8%	4.5%	10.5%
• Percentage with disabilities other than speech	7.4%	No change	9.1%	10.5%

Lee School District
521 Park Street
Bishopville, SC 29010

Grades K-12

Enrollment: 2,998 Students

Superintendent Dr. Willie Townes 803-484-5327

Board Chair Mrs. Deloris Wright 803 437 2089

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual District Report Card	2001
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DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

It is with great pride that we present the Annual Report Card to the people of Lee County. We believe school term 2000-2001 was a very good year for the Lee County Schools. We also feel good about the future of public education in our community. We have benefited significantly from the technical assistance we have been receiving for the past three years from the State Department of Education. This technical assistance has been provided due to student performance on standardized assessment.

Implementing the district strategic plan and the school renewal plans will ensure that improving instruction is the focal point of our district's educational programs. The eight strategies contained in the District Strategic Plan impact upon curriculum and instruction.

Student performance in the areas of academics, athletics, and the arts has been exceptional during the past year. Among our many accomplishments are the following:

- Lee Central High School opened its doors in August 2000 with all of the technological amenities that will provide our students with a challenging and demanding curriculum.
- Exemplary student performance in areas of occupational education, fine arts and athletics as exemplified by the winning of statewide awards, acceptance to the Governor's School for the Arts, and winning the state championship in girls' basketball.
- A State Department of Education External Review Team Report indicated that the school district made progress on 63 of 64 recommendations made by the review team the previous year.

- The opening of Mount Pleasant Middle School for 7th and 8th graders enabled the district to close a school that served students in grades four through eight.
- Increased community and business involvement as evidenced by the participation we have had on school improvement councils, action teams, public forums, and other school related activities. In addition, business partnerships are in effect at all district schools.

- Lower Lee Primary, West Lee Elementary, and Bishopville Primary Schools successfully completed the five-year renewal of Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SAS) accreditation.

While the Lee County Board of Education is involved in all aspects of governance, improving student achievement is priority number one. We believe with the involvement of everyone, we will be successful in implementing the district strategic plan and raising the bar of student achievement in all district schools. The school board will continue to explore all options to secure the resources our children deserve.

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at

www.myschools.com